



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,007	12/16/2003	Rakesh Bhatia	5681-73000	4538
35690	7590	05/10/2005		EXAMINER
				DOERRLER, WILLIAM CHARLES
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3744	

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/737,007	BHATIA, RAKESH
	Examiner	Art Unit
	William C Doerrler	3744

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 16 December 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some *
 - c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2-10-2005.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the fan mixing ambient air with cooled air of claims 6 and 14 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities: In line 2 of the claim "said plurality of vortex tubes" lacks clear antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,7,8 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Dukhan et al.

Dukhan et al show in figure 4 a system for cooling a plurality of electronic assemblies 36,38,40 and 42 which directs a stream of cooling air from a cooling manifold which extends vertically within the housing out a plurality of orifices directed toward the electronic assemblies.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dukhan et al.

Dukhan discloses applicant's basic inventive concept, a device for cooling electronic assemblies by distributing cooled air from a manifold out a plurality of orifices toward the assemblies, substantially as claimed with the exception of using a horizontal manifold. This is seen as a matter of obvious design choice which will not effect the cooling performance of the device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention to modify the cooling system of Dukhan et al by using a horizontal duct to reduce the vertical dimension of the device depending on the desired configuration of the electronic assemblies.

Claims 2-5,11-13 and 18-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dukhan et al in view of Alexander et al.

Dukhan et al disclose applicant's basic inventive concept, a system for cooling electronic assemblies by cooling air using a vortex tube and distributing cooled air from a manifold out a plurality of apertures directed at electronic assemblies to be cooled, substantially as claimed with the exception of providing a separate cooling system for each assembly. Alexander et al show this feature to be old in the electronics cooling art with each heat exchanger which receives precooled air having an expansion means 119. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicants' invention from the teaching of Alexander et al to modify the electronic cooling system of Dukhan et al by providing a cooling system for each electronic assembly to improve the control over the cooling to the respective assemblies.

Claims 6 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dukhan et al in view of Alexander et al as applied to claims 2-5,11-13 and 18-21 above, and further in view of York et al.

Dukhan et al, as modified, discloses applicant's basic inventive concept, an electronic cooling assembly which provides streams of air individually cooled by vortex tubes to electronic assemblies, substantially as claimed with the exception of a fan to mix cooled air with ambient air. York et al show this feature to be old in the art with fans 28 and 29 combining ambient air with air treated by vortex tubes. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's invention from the teaching of York et al to modify the vortex cooling system of Dukhan et al by using a fan to combine treated air with ambient air to improve the efficiency of the system by using convective cooling using air which is not thermally treated which will be more thermodynamically efficient.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Inglis et al, Roof et al and Patel et al show cooling systems for enclosures which use vortex tubes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William C Doerrler whose telephone number is (571) 272-4807. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 6:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl Tyler can be reached on (571) 272-4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


William C Doerrler
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3744

WCD